

## **Advisory Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Board of Health (ABH) was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at Town Hall.

Members Present: Kevin Cunningham, Chair; Mary Guimond, Clerk  
Guests: David Knauf, Director of Public Health for Darien; Dr. Caleb Moore, Darien's Doctor of Record; Colleen Harkey, American Red Cross; and Dr. Thomas Nero

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Chair Kevin Cunningham. Minutes for the December 16 meeting were approved. Chair Cunningham deferred discussion of the Paramedic Presentation review until next month, awaiting information from First Selectwoman Klein.

Ms. Harkey and Dr. Nero gave an overview of the Hands for Life program, created by Dr. Nero. This program is a collaboration among Stamford Hospital, the American Red Cross and American Heart Association to train the population in rapid, compression-only CPR. Dr. Nero discussed the changing protocols related to CPR training, which increasingly points to compression-only in the first five minutes of cardiac arrest as being the preferred method. Dr. Nero and Ms. Harkey were seeking the support of ABH and Health Department in a kick-off of the Hands for Life program in Darien in February with more extensive training to follow. ABH members, Mr. Knauf and Dr. Moore unanimously supported this program and Chair Cunningham agreed to recommend participation in this program and in the kick-off to the Board of Selectmen. Dr. Nero mentioned that the program needs a small amount of funding for costs related to printing of pamphlets and literature and Mr. Knauf said that the Health Department can help in this area. Dr. Nero and Ms. Harkey then left the meeting.

Mr. Knauf discussed the Health Department budget and changes from previous budgets, specifically an increase for funding of water testing and conferences. He indicated the need for capital expenditure to fund software and note tablets to convert the current paper-based process to an electronic-based process. He asked for ABH support of this request, which he unanimously received. Chair Cunningham will represent ABH at the February 3, 2009 Health Department budget meeting with the Selectmen.

Mr. Knauf discussed a letter he received from the Town Government Services and Administration (TGS&A) committee of the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) which is working to update the town charter. There are many ordinances related to the Health Department that appear to be outdated and Mr. Knauf will work with TGS&A to update them. Ms. Guimond offered to help Mr. Knauf in this effort, if needed.

Mr. Knauf mentioned that food training for restaurant workers will begin soon and that the training will be done by Health Department employees. He reported that all restaurants have renewed their licenses in town, with all fees collected. He asked ABH

about our views on making restaurant inspections more accessible to the public by having them posted online. ABH members were positive about such online accessibility.

Ms. Guimond asked if Mr. Knauf or Chair Cunningham had knowledge of a person being assigned as a liaison to ABH from the Commission on Aging. Neither is aware. Ms. Guimond had learned that Jennifer Geddes had been so assigned. Chair Cunningham will speak with First Selectwoman Klein to get clarification on this assignment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Guimond, Clerk